

## Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 004550

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, ETEL, MARR, OCON, MILI

SUBJECT: TRANSFER OF NATO ARMY ARMAMENTS GROUP (NAAG)  
PANEL VIII ACTIVITIES TO THE TRI-SERVICE GROUP (TSG) ON  
COMMUNICATIONS - ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT

REF: A. USNATO 7045 B.USNATO 38

1. IN GENERAL, WE AGREE WITH TRANSITION OF PANEL VIII  
TO THE NEW TSG AS OUTLINED IN REF A.
2. IT MAY BE THAT PRIORITIES PROPOSED IN PARA 3 OF REF  
A ARE APPROPRIATE; HOWEVER THE TSG SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLE  
FOR MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CNAD CONCERNING SPECIFIC  
ACTIVITIES TO BE CONTINUED, THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE  
FOR CARRYING OUT THESE ACTIVITIES, AND THE PRIORITY OF  
TASKS FOR EACH SUB GROUP IT PROPOSES.

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3. FOR EXAMPLE, IT MAKES LITTLE SENSE TO DIVIDE WORK ON  
TACTICAL COMMUNICATIONS INTO SEPARATE GROUPS. IN OUR  
VIEW, THERE ARE ALREADY TOO MANY DIFFERENT NATO GROUPS  
CONSIDERING VARIOUS ASPECTS OF COMMUNICATIONS, COMMAND  
AND CONTROL (C3). AS A RESULT, COORDINATION OF EFFORTS  
TO ACHIEVE COMMUNICATION INTEROPERABILITY/STANDARDIZATION  
BECOMES AN ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TASK. WE WOULD PREFER TO

SEE HIGH LEVEL NATO C3 OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE THAT COULD FORCIBLY BRING TO NATIONAL ATTENTION ACTIONS THAT THEY SHOULD TAKE TO ACHIEVE INTEROPERABILITY WITH OTHER NATIONAL FORCES AND THE NICS. BASED ON THIS RATIONALE, AN IMMEDIATE BENEFIT WILL OCCUR AS THE CNAD INCLUDES ALL TRI-SERVICE TACTICAL COMMUNICATIONS ISSUES UNDER ONE BODY. WE MUST BE CAREFUL, HOWEVER, TO INSURE THAT CURRENT CNAD GROUPS DO NOT CONTINUE TO BE DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN C-E FUNCTIONS. COMMUNICATIONS ISSUES ARISING IN THESE OTHER CNAD GROUPS SHOULD BE REFERRED TO THE TSG FOR RESOLUTION. THIS TYPE REFERRAL CAN HELP TNS;RE COMPATIBLE AND INTEROPERABLE C-E EQUIPMENTS.

4. USING THE ABOVE RATIONALE AS A BASIS FOR YOUR COMMENTS, YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO TABLE A PROPOSAL AT THE NADREPS JAN 10, 1977 MEETING TO TRANSFER THE PANEL VIII WORK PROGRAMS TO THE TSG. UNDER THIS PROPOSAL THE EXISTING PANEL VIII WOULD BE ABOLISHED AND THE TSG WOULD INCLUDE EXISTING CNAD TACTICAL COMMUNICATIONS WORK PROGRAMS INTO THE TSG ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE.

5. IT IS OUR VIEW THAT WG1 OF THE NATO AD HOC COMMITTEE ON EQUIPMENT INTEROPERABILITY SHOULD EXPEDIOUSLY COMPLETE ITS WORK, SO THAT TACTICAL COMMUNICATIONS GROUP CAN ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY IN THIS FIELD. FYI. OUR REP TO JAN-FEB MEETING OF WG1 WILL SET OUT OUR OBJECTIVES AND TIME TABLES TO FIELD, AS A MINIMUM, INTEROPERABLE TACTICAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS - INCLUDING

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COMMON COMBAT NET RATIOS IN THE MID 1980'S. IT WILL BE A FORMIDABLE TASK FOR THE TSG TO ACCEPT OUR OBJECTIVES AND ACHIEVE THEIR PRACTICAL APPLICATION IN THE SHORT TIME PERIOD WE SHALL PROPOSE. END FYI.

6. IN SUMMARY, OUR GOAL IS TO SEE CONCRETE ACTION TO ACHIEVE COMMUNICATIONS INTEROPERABILITY/STANDARDIZATION RATHER THAN A CONTINUAL SERIES OF ROAD BLOCKS CAUSED BY PAROCHIAL NATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS.

7. TO INSURE THAT ACTIONS RECEIVE CONTINUOUS AND HIGH LEVEL NATO AND NATIONAL VISIBILITY, WE CONSIDER IT ESSENTIAL IN THE NEAR TERM THAT DAY-TO-DAY WORK BE PERFORMED BY A LOCAL GROUP OF PERMANENT EXPERTS. A QUALIFIED US EXPERT IS AVAILABLE IN MISSION C-E DIVISION TO SIT ON THIS GROUP.

8. TO INSURE CONTINUING VISIBILITY, WE BELIEVE THAT SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTS ON PROGRESS, OR OBSTACLES TO ACHIEVING

PROGRESS, SHOULD BE PROVIDED IN THE CNAD REPORT TO MINISTERS. THESE REPORTS SHOULD ALSO INCLUDE INTEROPERABILITY

CONSIDERATIONS THAT ARE APPLICABLE TO THE NICS.

9. FIRST MEETING OF TSG SHOULD REVIEW TOR AND STATUS OF ACTIVITIES OF ALL EXISTING GROUPS WHOSE FUNCTIONS ARE TO BE TRANSFERRED TO THE TSG. THIS ACTION SHOULD FOLLOW YOUR PROPOSALS SET OUT IN PARA 4A AND B OF REF A.  
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